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89 1810832 ASP

PAGE 001
TOT: 100712Z FEB 89

DIRECTOR 489193

TO: PRIORITY EAST ASIA BRIEF.

WNINTEL

CIA/CPAS EAB 89-033

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SUBJECT: EAST ASIA BRIEF OCPAS EA 89-033 FOR 10 FEBRUARY 1989

FROM: DDI/O/CPAS.

ITEM

3. INDONESIA: MILITARY CLASHES WITH MUSLIM GROUP

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APPROVED FOR RELEASE
DATE: SEP 2005

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89 1810832 ASP

PAGE 002
TOT: 100712Z FEB 89

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3. INDONESIA: MILITARY CLASHES WITH MUSLIM GROUP

JAKARTA'S SEMIOFFICIAL NEWS SERVICE REPORTS 27 MEMBERS OF AN ISLAMIC GROUP WERE KILLED THIS WEEK IN SOUTHERN SUMATRA IN A BATTLE WITH ARMY AND POLICE UNITS. OTHER MEDIA CLAIM THE DEATH TOLL IS MUCH

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89 1810832 ASP

PAGE 003
TOT: 100712Z FEB 89

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HIGHER. [REDACTED] VIOLENCE BEGAN AFTER AN ARMY
DETACHMENT INTERRUPTED THE GROUP'S PRAYER MEETING AND THAT A PRESS
BLACKOUT HAS BEEN IMPOSED. [REDACTED]

COMMENT: PRESIDENT SOEHARTO HAS A RECORD OF DEALING HARSHLY
WITH ISLAMIC EXTREMISM, AND JAKARTA WILL MOVE QUICKLY TO REASSURE
MUSLIMS, WHO MAKE UP ALMOST 90 PERCENT OF THE POPULATION, THAT THE
INCIDENT WAS LIMITED TO AN EXTREMIST GROUP. MUSLIM CRITICISM OF THE
GOVERNMENT'S USE OF FORCE, HOWEVER, IS LIKELY. [REDACTED]

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